

**Ministry of  
Municipal Affairs  
and Housing**

Office of the Minister

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JAN 09 2020

19-4806

Wayne Emmerson  
[Wayne.Emmerson@York.ca](mailto:Wayne.Emmerson@York.ca)

Dear Regional Chair ~~Wayne~~ Emmerson:

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads 'Wayne'.

You may recall that in February 2019, I wrote to you about pausing your regional council composition review as the Regional Government Review progressed. I am writing today to provide an update on this matter.

As I announced on October 25, 2019, we heard during the Regional Government Review that local communities should decide what is best for them in terms of governance, decision-making and service delivery. After careful consideration our government is committed to partnering with municipalities without pursuing a top-down approach.

As a result, I am writing to ask that – if applicable to your municipality – you continue the work to review your council composition with a goal to adjust or reaffirm the composition of your regional council.

As a reminder, the *Municipal Act* requires that certain regional municipalities achieve triple majority support for a decision to either change or reaffirm regional council composition two years after the day the regional council was organized following the 2018 municipal election. The legislation allows the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to make a regulation changing that region's council composition. Regional municipalities that made a change to their council composition between the 2014 and 2018 municipal elections are not subject to the requirement to conduct a council composition review until after the 2026 municipal election.

If you have any questions about these provisions, you may wish to refer to the *Municipal Act*, or to the [Municipal Councillor's Guide](#) on my ministry's website. Your municipal staff can also contact Aly Alibhai, Regional Director, at our Central Municipal Services Office for more information at [Aly.Alibhai@ontario.ca](mailto:Aly.Alibhai@ontario.ca) or 416-585-7264.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to delivering efficient, effective and modern services to the people of Ontario. I look forward to continuing to work together to help the people and businesses in communities across our province thrive.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Clark". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "S" and a cursive "Clark".

Steve Clark  
Minister

c: Christopher Raynor, Clerk, York Region  
Kate Manson-Smith, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing